

CURRICULUM LETTER

YEAR 4 - TERM 1 2024



WELCOME

Dear Parents, Guardians, and Caregivers,

We take great pleasure in welcoming you and your children to the Year Four Learning Community this year.

The teaching team consists of: Mr Jeff Cornez in U1, Miss Gemma Hayley in M4, Miss Louise Turner and Ms Marisha Burnside in M3, and Mrs Toni Shane in L1 (Year 3/4). A strong collaborative approach is employed across the team to help ensure your child has a productive year with enriching and memorable learning experiences.

We would like to thank you for your cooperation in supporting our One-to-One iPad Program, which will provide new and worthwhile learning opportunities for your child. In line with the requirements of the Western Australian Curriculum, ICT skills will be embedded in a meaningful manner across all learning areas. As per our ICT User Agreement, we ask you not to message your child on his/her iPad during the school day.

We hope our information evening and this curriculum letter provide you with the information you need.

If you have further questions, please feel free to contact us by email to make an appointment. Our department email addresses are provided below.

Please note that emailing teachers during the school day about urgent matters (such as after-school arrangements etc) is not recommended. Mailboxes are often not checked until the children have left for the day. To ensure important messages get through to your child, please ring the front office who will advise us.

We look forward to working with you this year.

Kind regards,

Gemma, Jeff, Louise, Marisha, and Toni

IMPORTANT DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

- * Swimming Grading Trials – Friday 2 & 9 February, 1 & 8 March, 1:45 – 3:10pm
- * Year 4 Parent Information Session – Monday 12 February, 5pm in Upper Hall
- * WA Supreme Courts excursion (U1 & L1) – Monday 26 February
- * WA Supreme Courts excursion (M3 and M4) – Tuesday 27 February
- * Year 4 – 6 Faction Swimming Carnival, Claremont Aquatic Centre – Monday 11 March, 9am – 3:10pm
- * In term Swimming Lessons – Weeks 3 and 4 (12 Feb to 23 Feb)
- * Year 4 – 6 Subiaco Swim Squad Before School Training (Optional) – Beginning Week 3 on Tuesday and Thursdays from 6:45 – 8am

*Please also refer to the Compass Calendar for the latest up-to-date information.

ENGLISH

Reading: In Shared and Guided Reading, we will be focusing on the Super Six comprehension strategies (making connections, predicting, questioning, monitoring, visualising, and summarising). Emphasis will be placed on literal and inferred meaning when analysing and evaluating texts.

Writing: This term we will focus on **recounts** and **poetry**. We will also focus on grammar, punctuation, and editing.

Spelling: The students will continue to cover a weekly list of focus words from the SoundWaves program. Each child will be provided with a list of, and we encourage students to review their focus words at home during the week. Books have been issued in class and the website is also accessible at home, where word lists, activities, and extra worksheets are available for revision if needed.

Speaking and Listening

The students are provided with opportunities to participate in daily class and group discussions. In addition, they will frequently plan, rehearse, and deliver presentations on earned content, using language features to create coherence and add detail. Active listening is necessary if they are to build upon the ideas of others. This is a skill set that will be explicitly taught throughout the year.

MATHEMATICS

Year Four is a big content year. The Western Australian Curriculum includes **Number and Algebra**, **Statistics and Probability**, and **Measurement and Geometry**.

This term the focus will be on **Number** and **Place Value**, followed by mental and written **Addition** and **Subtraction** strategies.

Number fluency forms the vital foundation that, once mastered, can be applied to solve problems. The children will require significant support from home to practice and master their number facts including times tables.

In **Measurement** and **Geometry**, we will be revising the names and features of 2D and 3D shapes and investigating symmetry and tessellation.

HASS

In Year 4, HASS consists of **Civics and Citizenship**, **Geography**, and **History**.

Students develop their understanding and application of skills, including questioning and researching, analysing, evaluating, communicating, and reflecting. They will apply these skills to their daily learning experiences and investigate events, developments, issues, and phenomena, both historical and contemporary.

This term, students are focusing on **Civics and Citizenship**, where students will learn about the importance of rules and laws, the role of local government, and the cultural, religious, and social groups we belong to. Towards the end of the term, students will begin their studies in **Geography**, learning about the continents of Europe and Africa, sustainability of natural resources, features of countries (both natural and processed), and the connection between Aboriginal people to country and place.

SCIENCE (Mrs Linda Males)

This term, students are focusing on **Chemical Science** and understanding that natural and processed materials have a range of physical properties. These properties can influence their use.

The key ideas will be:

- Exploring properties of materials
- Elaborating on properties of materials
- Materials and their purposes.

Students will further develop their scientific skills to communicate ideas. They will apply questioning, evaluate fair testing, identify variables and data collection. They will increase their scientific vocabulary.

DIGITAL TECHNOLOGIES

This term Year Four students will understand and manage key online safety issues, including inappropriate or unwanted contact, cyberbullying and the risks of sharing images online.

DESIGN TECHNOLOGIES

Our Design Technologies' context for this term is **materials** and **technologies specialisations**. We will conduct experiments to test the properties of materials and investigate the suitability of these materials to solve a real-world problem. This will tie in with the content covered in Science.

HEALTH & WELLBEING

As part of our whole school approach to Health and Wellbeing, we are integrating regular Mindfulness practice into the school day. We will continue to use the Bounce Back program to further extend and apply the students' understanding of respect, empathy, resilience, and valuing the differences of others.

PHYSICAL EDUCATION (Mr Ashley Clancy / Mr Brendan Egan)

During Term 1, students will engage in a variety of enjoyable activities designed to boost their confidence and cultivate the necessary skills for successful sports participation. Specifically, our focus for this term will revolve around Handball and Skipping. The spectrum of activities and drills is aimed at enhancing coordination, fitness, ball control, positioning, balance, dribbling, shooting, team defence, and other fundamental gameplay skills essential for active participation in these sports.

Swimming is also a big focus for Term 1 with the In term Swimming Program at Claremont Aquatic Centre and a series of grading sessions in our school pool. Then the Senior Swimming Carnival, which takes place in the Claremont Pool.

As our warmer weather continues, we kindly request your assistance in ensuring that your child comes prepared for these PE lessons. We ask that they bring along their hats, a water bottle and sunscreen to safeguard themselves from the sun's rays. Rest assured that sunscreen will be readily available for those students who may need to reapply it throughout the day.

MUSIC (Mr Andrew Angel)

During Term 1, students in Year 4 will:

- Develop recorder-playing skills and will be introduced to music notation when performing pieces based on the Black Belt Recorder Program
- Practise singing, playing a variety of percussion instruments, and developing improvisational skills
- Perform a range of set pieces and improvise melodic and rhythmic patterns
- Learn to identify instruments of the orchestra by tone colour with a focus on woodwind instruments
- Develop their knowledge of the musical elements while responding to Gershwin's 'Rhapsody in Blue'.

A variety of technology sources will be used to enhance their learning.

SENIOR CHOIR - TUESDAY morning from **7:50am until 8:40am**.

Please encourage your child to come along!

Please register your child by clicking the link below:

YEAR 4, 5, 6 - SENIOR CHOIR - <https://forms.gle/eVckcE5uXpYPFeFi8>

ORCHESTRA - String ensemble Year 4/5/6 – **WEDNESDAY 7:40am – 8:40am** in the MUSIC ROOM

ART (Mrs Leith Elliott)

Year 4 Art is all about exploring art from varying times and cultures. During Semester One, classes will be illustrating their picture books which will be printed and used as a P&C fundraiser. This term students will:

- learn about the process of illustration and explore a range of painting, printmaking, and drawing techniques, as well as processes and materials, to develop their understanding of storybook illustration
- revise, explore, and identify the visual art elements of line, shape, colour, texture, tone/value, and space
- identify, learn about, and respond to an artist's work when creating backgrounds, painted papers, and artwork to be used in their storybook illustrations
- learn basic collage and printmaking techniques and skills
- identify, learn about, and respond to the meaning of artwork from other times and cultures
- learn visual art terminology and use the terminology when reflecting on artwork they view and make

FRENCH

Bonjour,

I am Madame Brandenburg, the new French Teacher at Subiaco Primary. I am from Mauritius and have been teaching French for the past fifteen years. I have taught adults, and high school students and have been teaching in a primary for the last seven years. I look forward to meeting and getting to know our students and families and the wider community of Subiaco PS.

Theme: My morning routine

- Learning and reading the time in French using the 24hr format.

- Learn and talk about the morning routine.
- Learn and translate numbers 70-100.

HOMework

Each week students will be given allocated tasks to provide practice in Literacy and Numeracy. We encourage students to read for at least 20 minutes each school night. Every child will have a copy of their weekly Spelling lists and it is an expectation that all students will achieve a high degree of accuracy in their weekly Spelling tests. In addition, it is also expected students to have quick and accurate recall of basic number facts with a focus on times tables.

DIGITAL USERS AT SUBIACO PRIMARY SCHOOL

Safe and ethical digital use is a priority at Subiaco Primary School. We show our students how to utilise technology in a safe and ethical way. Parent partnership in this journey is crucial. Online safety advice for parents from e-Safety Commission can be found here

https://www.esafety.gov.au/sites/default/files/2020-04/aus-global-parent-online-safety-advice_1.pdf.

The Telethon Institute has developed Beacon – a cyber-safety educational app to keep parents up to date with trusted information to keep kids safe online <https://beacon.telethonkids.org.au/>.

SEESAW – SHOWCASING STUDENT WORK

Over the term, students will be sharing examples of their work showing what they have been doing in class via the Seesaw app. It will be an invaluable tool to gauge your child's progress. We encourage parents to turn on their notifications so that they will know when new work is uploaded. Your child may share an image of a draft or a piece of written work, a photo of a maths problem that they solved, a quick update on a project that they are working on in a group, or something else they have chosen that they are proud of and want to share. On many occasions, our goal is to show the **learning process**, and offer an insight into what learning looks like in our Year 4 classes, therefore not all work will be marked.

COMPASS

To avoid missing out on important information and permission forms, we urge ALL parents to access Compass through <https://subiacops-wa.compass.education/> or the link on the Subiaco Primary School website under 'Quicklinks', or by downloading the 'Compass School Manager' app from the App Store or Play Store. Compass will allow you to:

- Monitor your child's attendance, and enter an explanation for absence or lateness
- Communicate with your child's teachers, and update your family contact details
- View school and class news feeds
- View the school calendar and school documentation
- Download and view your child's academic reports
- Book parent-teacher conferences
- Provide consent and payment for excursions ('Events')
- Pay contribution and other activity charges ('Course Confirmation/Payments')

SCHOOL TV - PARENT RESOURCE

School TV is an online resource that is available to our parents and publishes 10 editions per year. Current topics now on the website address issues that are relevant for children both in primary and secondary school settings including series on Mental Health, Cybersafety, School Survival, Healthy Body, Positive Parenting & Special Reports. Thank you to our P&C association for supporting this initiative and paying for the yearly subscription. To scan through what is available online visit <https://subiacops.wa.schooltv.me/>

Thank you again for your ongoing support.

Kind regards,

Year 4 Teachers

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